

I respectfully request that action be taken to control outflows in order to stabilize the water level of Dyer Long Pond as much as is practicable.

I have observed the lake level since I bought my property at 65 Trask Lane in 2003. During the first four years, heavy stop-logs in the dam at the foot of the lake kept the water level relatively stable after the major spring rains. We had successful loon nestings. Each year the slowly dropping water levels allowed the nesting loons to hatch. During August the lake level dropped further, and only very little water flowed over the dam, but that drop didn't affect the loons. Normal rainfall contributed enough water so that there was always run-off through the fish-ladder, allowing the return of alewives downstream.

During the last two years, for most of the spring and summer there were usually no stop-logs in the dam. The lake level was high early in spring. Then the level dropped very quickly during the loon nesting period in June. We believe that the extreme fluctuation reduced the viability of the nesting sites. Also, because of the early draining of the lake there was only a thin trickle of water downstream. No alewives were observed returning downstream.

Further, without the stop-logs formerly in place and maintaining water depths, we can no longer use our dock for swimming or boating. It previously reached out from shore to a water depth of four feet. Now that same dock terminates at a two-foot depth of water over a deep muck bottom.

Our property shoreline and about a hundred feet of the shallow waters adjacent to the shore is designated as a prime alewife spawning site. Since we have owned the property, every spring we see and hear the alewives actively spawning. In the last two years the locations where we usually observe most spawning activity have gone dry very soon after the normal spring high water. No new fish hatching would be successful on the exposed mud and grasses.

Respectfully submitted,

 December 13, 2017

Steven Urkowitz

65 Trask Lane

Jefferson, ME 04348

Phone 207 699 8869



NOTARIZED

Dec. 13, 2017

State of Maine
Cumberland County

CHERYL HAGMANN
Notary Public, Maine
My Commission Expires December 2, 2020